

Miscellaneous.

NEW YORK LETTER.
BY "MANHATTAN."

THE elections are over. Thank goodness! Once more the American people have declared themselves, and we may now settle down to the sober, earnest business of life. And when we remember that Gen. Harrison is a pronounced Christian, a member of the church, and a consistent, devoted man, we have cause for real gratitude. But when we also remember that Warner Miller was beaten in New York State by David B. Hill, the nominee of the saloon, and the avowed supporter of the gin mill and the drinking den, we have cause for humiliation. Nor is this the worst; for it would be almost treason to forget that this great city is by the late election turned over completely to the dominance of Romanism. Every official chosen on the 6th of November last to manage the affairs of this metropolis (with, possibly, one or two minor exceptions, and they are Jews) is a Roman Catholic. This is not accidental. Let us not deceive ourselves. It is part of a great scheme; and when Rum, Romanism, and Tammany Hall control New York all the way from King's Bridge to the Battery, we have a condition of things perilous in the extreme.

What are we going to do about it? "Aye, there's the rub." Well, we are going to write it up for ZION'S HERALD, that the Methodists of New England may know how things are. Plymouth Rock yet remains; and before we have a Vatican in New York city, or a papal coronation in our midst, Plymouth Rock must be ground into powder, and the type of character it represents utterly destroyed. And then after having written it up, we propose in God's name to go in for a determined, aggressive campaign, and see if Methodism is not a full match for Romanism. We think it is. True, we may not have the splendid cathedral of Fifth Avenue, nor a priest who wears a red hat, and is thereby called a cardinal, in attendance; neither have that subtle genius for politics so strongly marked in the Roman clergy; but we have an earnest, godly Bishop in this city whose power is already sensible, and a number of faithful, fearless Methodist preachers whose zeal and loyalty are unquestioned; and we have besides some royal-hearted, generous laymen, with an experience of consecration that goes clear through their bank account; and with men, money, and Methodism, New York will yet be saved. Dr. Burchard will kindly excuse the alliteration. It is to be hoped, however, that Chaplain McCabe will not see it, or he would add "missions," and to repeat all four would induce languidity.

Notwithstanding the dominance of Romanism, Thanksgiving was duly observed in this region, and the churches were open in large measure, and many of them crowded. Dr. Kendig had a great throng in Hanson Place, Brooklyn. But this is no new thing with him. He has a great throng twice every Sunday. He discussed the situation ably and earnestly. An invitation to repeat the discourse and a unanimous vote that it be printed for general circulation, proves its value and impressiveness.

Dr. O. H. Tiffany not only preached a magnificent sermon in St. James, this city, but furnished some of our newspapers with thought for their next-day editorials. Large and enthusiastic congregations are in attendance upon the Doctor's services in this church.

Few men are doing more to solve that vexed question, "How to reach the masses," than Dr. Merritt Hulburt, of Trinity Church, this city. On Sunday he has what might fairly be termed a crowd. In the evening the large church upstairs and down is thronged, and the aisles filled as well. On Tuesday evening he gives a lecture of a popular religious character, and the body of the church well filled, and on Friday afternoon has a class for children and young people, with an attendance of between two and three hundred.

That was a very marked compliment which the Brooklyn Sunday-school Association paid to Rev. J. Benson Hamilton, formerly of New England, by asking him to conduct the great Bible class of Dr. R. R. Meredith during the illness of the famous teacher. It was a most difficult and trying position, but Bro. Hamilton met the demand in a way that surprised even his friends. We used to think that there was only one Hamilton. There are two.

To some of us who sat in the Preachers' Meeting last Monday and listened to an earnest discussion of "Revivals, and How to Secure Them," there came feelings difficult to describe. And as some of the "fathers" gave their experiences, and told of the wonderful seasons they had seen, our feelings became still more involved. How was it accomplished? These are not, and never were, extraordinary men. Other men are more refined, better trained, able speakers, and very possibly as devoted and as earnest as any that the church has ever known, and yet such revivals as those described seem impossible to their ministry. Would it not be well to think over the new conditions of church life, and not insist upon a slavish adherence to methods and customs of long ago? We are in danger of thinking too much about "the former times." That David slew Goliath with a stone cast from a sling is very true, but if David were living now he would use a repeating rifle, and would have no use for a sword at all. When the Methodist Church is afraid of new departures, it ought to take a look at John Wesley standing on his father's tombstone and preaching the Gospel to a wondering congregation. And the question will come up, try as we will, are revivals matters of the almanac? And are we to pack into one or two weeks in January all the zeal and enthusiasm of the year, and run through the other months as best we can? John the Baptist was a

revivalist; but was Jesus? God grant that a blessed revival may come to all of our churches this season! But may its gracious influences abide with us, and result in holier living, nobler character, greater loyalty, and thus accomplish the full purpose of the Gospel!

The Discipline has something to say about churches entering into negotiations with pastors, but when a church like ours in Wilkesbarre, Penn., gets its thought upon a man like W. L. Phillips, of Brooklyn, who can blame them if they invite him to their pastorate? And have the people in Wilkesbarre no rights in the matter? They have one of the finest church buildings in the country, and one of the greatest congregations of Methodism, and they are honestly anxious concerning the future. We don't like to have Bro. Phillips leave this region. A superb preacher, a courteous, kind gentleman, a faithful, devoted friend, we regret to loan him, even, to the Wyoming Conference. His hosts of friends in New England will expect a continuance of that success which has always followed his ministry.

We have had this week an inter-denominational Conference in this city, to discuss ways and means of metropolitan evangelism. We had no cause for complaint in the make-up of the programme, as Dr. J. M. King, Dr. M. D. C. Crawford and Bishop Andrews had prominent parts assigned them. A committee was appointed, and something may be done. We are told that "union is strength." This is true—sometimes. But the movement is one, and from the character of those most deeply interested, we have reason to hope for permanent results.

INSIDE AN ART-HOUSE.

ONE of the most interesting places to visit at any time, but especially at the holiday season, is the establishment of Louis Prang & Co., in Roxbury. Here things both beautiful and delicate are made—things to please the eye and strike the most fastidious fancy. Christmas and New Year's cards, birthday and Easter cards, art-books, studies in water-color and oil, every imaginable production of the fine art of chromo-lithography, which Alois Senefelder of Munich discovered nearly a century ago, are on every hand. Artists at work, ladies sewing on silk and satin, presses printing pictures, book-keepers keeping the accounts, wagons carrying away the merchandise to reach ultimately many a home and adorn it—this is the work of the famous art-house.

But how is a chromo-lithographic picture made? The popular idea is that it is the product of one impression, easily made, and therefore, naturally, cheap. This is far from being the case. The word "chromo" has a bad air about it, being extensively used, and applied to almost every cheap print, found only in Italian shops at the North End. If, however, a single chromo-lithograph is taken, it involves more work and expense than either an oil or water-color; but when one is thoroughly finished, then the rest being the result of machine work, the labor is mere routine, and many can be produced at comparatively moderate cost. Look at the process. Mr. Prang's artist examines an oil-painting, and makes the schedule of every color in it. The ordinary eye would detect perhaps a dozen colors, but the skillful artist's eye finds twenty-five. When ordinary, as you look, the impression is that the color is simply black, the artist's hand is reaping largely of the fruits of his toil. A steady inflow has added twenty members by letter and probation since Conference. Exeter Street, another of the churches that has suffered such heavy losses, is also looking up. Rev. E. O. Eldridge, a sprightly and popular young man, is now in the second year of his pastorate, and is greatly beloved by his people.

North Baltimore station (Monument Street M. E. Church) was once the centre of a group of churches known by that name during the days of the old circuit system. This church still has a membership of more than five hundred, not wealthy, but possessing an amount of piety and culture not easy to duplicate. It still retains some of its old-time grip, but the slowly ebbing tides are bearing outward much of its strength and influence. The Sunday-school is remarkable for the large number of grown young men and women, intelligent and loyal, most of whom have graduated from the infant class.

The superintendent, Robert N. Crawford, is, taking him all in all, the most talented layman in Baltimore Methodist. Modest and retiring as a schoolboy, he shrinks from every semblance of notoriety. His real ability is, therefore, but little known beyond the limits of his own immediate church, to whose interests he has consecrated the largest portion of his past life. He is a brilliant talker, and his weekly reviews of the Sunday-school lesson are apt and trenchant, and always command the closest attention. A "Young People's Guild," organized two years ago, now has 150 members, and is rapidly growing.

On Monday evening, Dec. 3, a reception was tendered to Bishop John F. Hurst and his family at Metropolitan Church, Washington. The attendance was quite large. The ministers and their families of both cities were largely represented. Among the Methodist representation from Baltimore were Revs. John Lunahan, J. F. Goucher, W. F. Speake, David Carroll, J. R. Wheeler, and W. I. McKenney, and J. F. Bennett, etc.—builder of the First Church and Woman's College buildings, and David Abercrombie, manager of the Baltimore News Company.

The programme, which consisted of speech-making and music, was in charge of Rev. Dr. Reiley, presiding elder of the Washington District. It opened with singing "Children of the Heavenly King," and prayer by Rev. C. W. Baldwin. After a few opening remarks by Dr. Reiley, Rev. J. H. Dashields, D. D., was introduced, and in one of those faultlessly chaste addresses so characteristic of him, welcomed the Bishop in the name of the clergy of Washington. Dr. Lunahan followed, representing the Baltimore Preachers' Meeting. His address was brief, but appropriate, and in a humorous vein. Alexander Ashley, esq., a member of the last General Conference, represented the laity. His address, which he read from manuscript, was a review of our general superintendency, with recent legislation relative thereto.

At this holiday season there are some special issues, on two or three of which it may be pleasant to look. "The Home of Shakespeare" is a most elegant art-book, which would be a charming book. The book contains eight color pictures and eight mono-chromes, which are fac-similes of water-colors painted on the spot by an American artist, Mr. Harlow. There are apt quotations from the greatest poet-dramatist, with the pictures of familiar scenes, make it very valuable. It is dedicated to the distinguished American philanthropist, George W. Childs, of Philadelphia.

One of the most unique things to be seen, more pleasantly if Mr. Meyer explains it, is the Autograph Recipe Book. In shape like an autograph album, it has beside appropriate pictures and poetry, blank leaves, preceded by divisions, such as "Soups," "Fish," etc., on which friends are expected to write a recipe for making the best soup, or cooking, as only Dickens could, the vicious bivalve, or making the sinewy pudding. He said he came all the more cheerfully because unexpected. He came to welcome Bishop Hurst, his

from which the good housewife could select at pleasure three times a day for every day of the round year.

The speech-making closed with the response of the Bishop. He said if any one wanted to know how a man felt under such circumstances, let him try it. He felt all the evening as though he had been listening to things said of some one else; he could not realize that they referred to him. He alluded to the many expressions of pleasure at his presence with them, and said these feelings were heartily reciprocated by himself and family. He felt the position in which he was placed all the more keenly because he stood in the place of Bishop Andrews, who had lived among them for years, and greatly endeared himself to the church. If he had had the whole land to choose from, there is no city he would have selected in preference to Washington. He said that, strangely enough, since the exercises commenced, a little book had been handed him, of whose existence he had no knowledge, which proved to be a class-book of Salem circuit, Dorchester County, Md. The first names on the book were those of his father and mother, and immediately under these the name of Thomas Holliday Hicks, the grand old was governor of Maryland. This book was dated 1831, several years before he was born.

At the close of the Bishop's address Rev. Dr. Corey, pastor of Metropolitan Church, arose, and in the name of the ladies presented to Mrs. Hurst a bouquet of very beautiful La France roses. Mrs. H. gracefully bowed her thanks, after which "Blest be the tie that binds," was sung, and the whole congregation was invited to repair to the lecture-room below, where a general handshaking and "other refreshments" were enjoyed. N. B.

BALTIMORE LETTER.

WHY should not New England hear with interest from the Middle or Southern States, and vice versa? We are one church. Our interests are identical. We have many members, but one body. "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it." This is true in theory, but the practice, I greatly fear, is in danger of falling into a state of "innocuous desuetude." We are becoming too Congregational. The urgent and ever-increasing need of our church is an intense denominational unity. While attending to our own business as local churches, we must maintain intact an arterial system that will send the life-current with force and freedom to the outer extremity of the body ecclesiastic. Only in this way can we mass and marshal our forces and hurl them with irresistible power against any strategic point of our common foe.

Our Baltimore Preachers' Meeting has been recently struggling with the irrepressible question, "How to Reach the Masses," but the masses go on un-reached all the same. Our congregations are quite up to, if not somewhat beyond, the average. Especially in the downtown churches, subject to constant drains by death and removals, the pastors are fighting a desperate battle against great odds. But a fair measure of success is crowning their efforts. The old High Street Church, long famous for wealth and aggressiveness, became almost depopulated by a steady process of disintegration. Recently it has seemed to take a new lease of life. The pastor, Rev. W. G. Herbert, is one of the most incessant workers, and the church is reaping largely of the fruits of his toil. A steady inflow has added twenty members by letter and probation since Conference. Exeter Street, another of the churches that has suffered such heavy losses, is also looking up. Rev. E. O. Eldridge, a sprightly and popular young man, is now in the second year of his pastorate, and is greatly beloved by his people.

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At 11.15 a. m., Rev. W. J. Heath read a sharp and suggestive paper upon "The Bible in Relation to Public and Social Worship." The Bible is at the foundation of all worship. It affords instruction, reproof, comfort, inspiration, and consolation. The Bible should be made the text of the garrisoners of experience. It is more frequent and honest we should be encouraged in all our meetings. Rev. H. H. Paine and others spoke upon the same subject.

At 1.30 p. m., Rev. T. G. Eaton uttered words upon "Church Finances" which all our churches should hear. The obligation of the church to pay its bills honestly and promptly is as sacred and binding as any other. Every member should ask himself, "What is needed?" and, "What can I do?" The sacred duty of Christian stewardship should be emphasized.

At 2.10 p. m., Rev. G. C. Osgood read a carefully prepared paper upon "What does the Pastor Most Need from His People?" He answered, 1. An adequate appreciation of his duties, which were described as multifarious and arduous; 2. A prompt and adequate financial support; 3. Prayerful sympathy and co-operation. Judge Hitchcock answered the question, "What does the Church Most Need from its Pastor?" by saying that the pastor should be, 1. A man of good sterling common-sense; 2. He should live among his people, invite their confidence and guard it sacredly, be sympathetic with them in their trials, be an example and leader; 3. As a preacher the people have a right to expect of him hard study and carefully-prepared discourses.

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At 3.15 p. m., Rev. G. C. Osgood spoke respectively upon "The Advantages of the Sunday-school Assembly to Teachers, to Clergy, to Students." The First Church, Taunton, Rev. E. L. Hyde, pastor of Grace Church, preached for Brother Cady the preceding Sunday. The pastor of the First Church has been seriously ill, but is now much better; he is able to do a full work again, and will doubtless fully recover in a few days. X. Y. Z.

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N. E. SOUTHERN CONFERENCE.
New Bedford District.

A successful harvest festival was given in Chatham a few weeks since. The literary and musical programme was a fine one. The financial results were very satisfactory. The series of special sermons which the pastor, Rev. W. J. Yates, is giving, has elicited considerable interest and much commendation. In the *Methodist Herald* for November is an article on "The Election," which closes with seven rules which should control the citizen in the exercise of the privilege of suffrage. They are the best and most wholesome that we have ever seen. If universally adopted by Christians, the result would be a revolution of the right kind, which would save the nation in a few years from almost every great evil by which we are now surrounded.

Rev. S. H. Tucker, of *Gayville*, is having quite a revival interest on his charge. Six have been baptized, and five have been taken into the church. The past week extra meetings have been held, and the presiding elder has rendered efficient service. Conversations occurred, and the church received new life and power. The interest in the meetings constantly increased.

It is a timely book. Readers of "Robert Elsmere" will find in these pages an antidote to the perverting or disturbing influences of that powerful novel, and will receive what eternal truth and blessed comfort is hidden in the familiar and inspired pages of the *Corinthian Church*. It is a book, too, for all time; for death "has all seasons for its own," and mourners perpetually need the consoling teachings of the great Apostle. They are brought out with great skill and force in these sermons. We confess to a great admiration of Dr. Thomas' way of putting things. His style is fresh, and clear, and trenchant, and scholarly. The audiences who listened to these discourses — for they were prepared for public utterance in the regular course of the author's ministry — are to be congratulated upon having enjoyed such a luminous and uplifting exposition of the great theme of personal immortality; while those who read the volume

Ten sermons on
the First St. Paul,
Fr. D., pastor
Brookline,
Mass. & Co.: 50 Broad-
sider of "Rob-
ert" pages an
influencing infusives
will recognize
the comfort he
inspired chapter to
a book, too, for
the regular course
is to be con-
sidered such a
situation of the
great
size, as never
Paul, and rejoice
in the blessed hope." In
the volume the
volume is
up to the high

LEAVES FROM THE LIFE OF A GOOD FOR-
NIGHT. Translated from the German by
Mrs. A. L. Wister. Price, \$5. J. B. Lippincott,
Philadelphia.

On heavy paper, in clear type, beautifully
illustrated by Philipp Grot Johann and Pro-
fessor Edmund Knobell, the Lippincott Co.
issue the entertaining story of a "Good for-
nothing" — a translation from the German
of Joseph Freiherr von Eichendorff by Mrs.
A. L. Wister, whose excellent renderings into
English have hitherto been received with
great favor by the reading public. The volume
is unique and will make a
handsome holiday gift.

OTTO OF THE SILVER HAND. Written and
illustrated by Howard Pyle. Price, \$2.
Charles Scribner's Sons: New York.

More than ordinarily attractive is this beau-
tiful juvenile book — typography, half
leather binding, and illustrations harmonizing
exquisitely. Mr. Pyle, the artist author, who
is a prince of story tellers, has laid the scene
of this tale in medieval Germany in the days
of the robber barons, when family feuds and
the general lawlessness of the time gave scope
to numberless deeds of bravery and cruelty.
Otto's fortunes will be followed with absorbing
interest by the lad who shall become the
happy possessor of this fine book.

THE BRITISH CHRISTMAS CAROL. By Kate
Douglas Wiggin. Price, 50 cents. Hough-
ton, Mifflin & Co.: Boston and New York.

Incredibly sweet is the touching little
story, by Kate Douglas Wiggin, of "Carol
Bird" — her mother's little Christmas Carol
— who planned so lovingly to give a happy
Christmas to a family of poor children. The
book is daintily illustrated, and issued in art-
istic covers of delicate green, with white bind-
ing.

THE AMERICAN GIRL'S HOME BOOK OF
WORK AND PLAY. By Helen Campbell.
Second, New Edition, Revised and
Enlarged. G. P. Putnam's Sons: New
York. Price, \$1.75.

This favorite work was published five years
ago, and is one of the most complete of its
kind in the market. All the old games are
here, and the various useful employments.
Two new chapters have been added in the
present edition — on candy-making, and a
new form of mosaic work. These treasures of
sports and occupations is the ideal gift-book
for a girl. It is handsomely bound.

ADVENTURES OF THE EARLY DISCOVERERS.
By Frances A. Humphrey. Ill. Boston:
Lothrop Co. Price, \$1.

In this handsomely illustrated volume,
written for little readers, the author tells the
story of the navigators of three and four
hundred years ago, who bravely made their
way across the Atlantic in their frail vessels,
and met with the most extraordinary ad-
ventures in the new countries where they
landed. The list of the early discoverers in-
cludes Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci, Se-
bastian Cabot, Sir Francis Drake, Walter
Raleigh and Ferdinand de Soto. The ad-
ventures are all illustrated.

THE COURT OF CHARLES IV. A Romance
of the Escorial. By B. Perez Galdos. From
the Spanish by Clara Bell. W. S. Gottes-
berger: New York.

In this historical romance the author, who
occupies a front rank among modern Spanish
novelists, portrays the political intrigues, the
scandals and trivialities and jealousies of the
Court of Spain, and the general instability of
the government during the first four years of
the century, affording a vivid and valuable
picture of that period. The dramatic story is
recounted by a young lad, who is the servant
of an actress, and ends abruptly, the con-
cluding paragraphs leading the reader to sur-
mise that, though the narrative may be com-
plete in itself, there is a sequel to follow.

THE WORLD WENT VERY WELL THEN. By
Walter Besant. Illustrated. Harper &
Brothers: New York.

Admirers of "All in a Garden Fair," "The
Chaplain of the Fleet," and "Herr Paulus,"
will welcome this new novel by Mr. Besant —
a spirited and exciting tale of adventure, and
love, and of naval fights one hundred and
fifty years ago. The Harpers publish the
volume in the new library edition, with clear
type and fine illustrations.

NEW HARMONY'S VISIT TO JERUSALEM. By
Susan G. Knight. Price, \$1.25. Illustrated.
D. Lothrop & Co.: Boston.

In diary form a young boy describes his
visit to Jerusalem, giving brief sketches of
places in the Holy Land made interesting in
the Biblical narrative. From her personal
knowledge the author is enabled to give
graphic and accurate descriptions of the locali-
ties visited. The illustrations add greatly to
the attractiveness of the book, which is bound
in a bright-colored cover from original de-
signs.

A FROZEN DRAGON, AND OTHER TALES. By
Charles Frederick Holder. Price, \$2. Dodd,
Mead & Co.: New York.

Attractive within and without is this beau-
tiful story-book of natural history for boys
and girls, profusely illustrated by J. C. Beard,
D. C. Beard and J. M. Nugent, from
sketches by the author, which bring out many
of the unique and marvelous features of the
animal kingdom. Some one has truly said that

Mr. Holder is a magician who uses his pen as
a warrant to open the fairy-land of science to
young readers." Unstinted praise can safely
be awarded this fascinating and instructive
volume, over which many a young natural-
ist's eyes will shine with delight at the coming
Christmas-tide.

ST. NICHOLAS: An Illustrated Magazine for
Young Folks. Conducted by Mary Mapes
Dodge. Vol. XV. Parts I and II. The
Century Co.: New York.

The bound volumes for 1888 of this favorite
magazine will constitute an almost inex-
haustable treasure-house of stories and pic-
tures for not only the young members of the
family circle, but for older people as well. In
turning the pages of these charming books,
one begins to realize the great amount of enter-
taining matter provided every month in such
delightful and wholesome variety for
youthful readers.

CHATTERBOX. Edited by J. Erskine Clarke,
M. A. Price, \$1.25. Estes & Lauriat:
Boston.

City and country children alike are familiar
with the gay covers and pleasing contents of
the illustrated bound magazine called "Chat-
terbox." The pictures and stories in the vol-
ume for 1888 maintain their usual standard
of excellence.

W. H. WELLS. Compiled by Alice
Nims. \$1.50. Nims &

small gift-books
in our mind, is "Lawn
colors from sketches
with accompanying
well known auth-
ors in stiff lithographed
red chevrons.

Troy, N. Y., we
have
for 1888 — the
having a large card
portrait of George
selections from her
5 cents); a "Schiller
card, fan shaped card,
in the original and
in the year (90
line Calendar," with
sign for each month,
and ornamental
covers.

RIMS. Compiled by
Estes & Lauriat: \$1.25. Estes & Lauriat:
Boston.

consolatory "thoughts
we journey through
to one still farther,"
the "Rainy Day,"
"mountains," etc., and
other covers.

THE WRITINGS OF
TOME. Arranged by

Abbie H. Fairfield. Price, \$1. Houghton,
Mifflin & Co.: Boston and New York.

This new work by the Countess Gasparin
will be welcomed by those who enjoyed her
"Human Nature," "Woman," "Children,"
"Education," "New England Life," and "Miscella-
neous." The compiler has per-
formed her task admirably, and the publishers
have brought out the book in a very tasteful
form.

LEAVES FROM THE LIFE OF A GOOD FOR-
NIGHT. Translated from the German by
Mrs. A. L. Wister. Price, \$5. J. B. Lippincott,
Philadelphia.

On heavy paper, in clear type, beautifully
illustrated by Philipp Grot Johann and Pro-
fessor Edmund Knobell, the Lippincott Co.
issue the entertaining story of a "Good for-
nothing" — a translation from the German
of Joseph Freiherr von Eichendorff by Mrs.
A. L. Wister, whose excellent renderings into
English have hitherto been received with
great favor by the reading public. The volume
is unique and will make a
handsome holiday gift.

THE DECEMBER issue of the American Ge-
ologist has a half dozen articles of great value
to those interested in the science to which the
magazine is devoted, together with a very full
Review of Recent Geological Literature,
"Correspondence," "Personal and Scientific
News," etc.

Magazines and Periodicals.
The December number of the North Ameri-
can has a symposium on the question, "Is
Stanley Dead?" to which General Wolsey,
Charles P. Daly, J. M. Hubbard, Dr. Franz
Boas contribute the first named cable a
synopsis of his contribution, which failed to
arrive in season by mail. All these experts are
hopeful that the explorer survives, and the
Christmas number was especially good.
Only 50 cents a year. Published by the
Woman's Temperance Publication Associa-
tion: 161 La Salle St., Chicago.

That bright and interesting little sheet, so
easily edited by Miss Alice M. Guerneay, the
Young Crusader — the children's illustrated
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RALD OF DEC. 5
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Summerfield Church,
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Secure Better Teach-
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blackboard his normal
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reeman, the long-time
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the year.

missionary, and in some respects very suc-
cessfully. The missionary collection is three and a half times larger than last year. The Sun-
day-school collection will also be large. Twen-
ty copies of *Little Missionary and Missionary World* are taken. The subscription list for
the HERALD is more than doubled. Preach-
ers' Aid will be twice that of last year. An
auxiliary of the Y. P. C. League has started
with twenty members. Rev. W. I. Haven
gave an interesting and suggestive address at
their first public meeting. Sunday, Dec. 6.
The pastor, Rev. J. A. Day, not being able to
be present, asked the members of the League
to take charge of the morning services, which
they did in a very acceptable manner, the pas-
tor's wife reading one of Bishop Foss' ser-
mons.

Lynn District.
Marblehead. — Rev. C. T. Johnson has
been out of his pulpit for two weeks, owing to
muscular prostration. The official board sup-
plies his pulpit. Rev. L. W. Staples preached
last Sunday. It is hoped that a brief rest will
be all that is necessary to his complete resto-
ration.

At the dinner of the Boston Wesleyan Uni-
versity Club, held at the Revere House, Bos-
ton, on the 10th inst., the New Bedford Dis-
trict was represented by Dr. Gallagher, who
was one of the speakers, and Revs. Robert
Clark, Jordan C. Wells, and W. J. Smiths.

The missionary convention held in Chatham,
Nov. 14, was well attended and very profit-
able. The convention was addressed by Mrs.
Rev. Dr. Wm. Butler and Rev. Edward Cum-
mingham. A social reunion and supper in
the vestries of the church were much enjoyed by
all present. The auxiliary of the Woman's
Foreign Missionary Society has a larger mem-
bership than ever before and is in a flourishing
condition. The pastor's wife, Mrs. M. B.
Yates, is the president. A large number of
new and useful books have recently been
added to the Sunday-school library. The
wants of this church seem to be very carefully
attended to in every department.

X. Y. Z.

Springfield District.

Monson. — God has been richly blessing
our people. Miss Grace Weiser recently spent
a few days with us, and assisted the pastor in
some revival meetings. Their faith and labors
were abundantly rewarded. About one
hundred bowed at the altar seeking pardon,
and the majority gave evidence of being hap-
pily converted. Fifty have already joined the
church on probation, and more are expected
to do so at an early day. Every department
of work feels the gracious influence, and the
spiritual life of the members is greatly quick-
ened.

Of some of our charges on these hills of
western Massachusetts we may sing: —

"Now I repent and sin again;
Now revive, and now am I."

The life of the church is fluctuating as
that of many Christians. It depends very
largely upon the ability of the presiding elder
to send to them a man who can live on
as well by faith. Such a pastor may, while
he stays, galvanize them into a semblance of
vital Christianity, but upon his removal they
immediately fall back into a state of suspen-
sion. These fields, however, are the arenas of
strife of great heroism and devotion
to duty, the sacred circles of ancient Rome.
Many of our brethren and their families
are possessed of the true martyr spirit.
They are some of God's noblemen. Through
suffering, they are winning their way to a
crown. Among others, these remarks apply
to Heath. Prior to the coming of the present
pastor, there had been no meetings except
Sunday school, for some time. Now by his
faithful work and the blessing of God we have
preaching regularly, besides both Sabbath
and week-night prayer-meetings. The young
people have a class meeting on Friday even-
ing, which, like all the other services, is well at-
tended. Some extra meetings recently held
resulted in increased interest among the people
of the church.

Berndston. — This is a field which, like
the hills among which it lies, demands careful
and continuous cultivation, and then yields
comparatively meager returns for the pains
expended. It was, however, in Rev. A. W.
Baird, the pastor, a most earnest and con-
scientious worker. He is the Lord's husband-
man indeed, abundant in labor, kind, sympa-
thetic, and cheerful about his tasks. The out-
look is somewhat more encouraging, the con-
gregations are good, and some religious inter-
est has resulted in adding eight to the church
on probation.

North Brookfield. — Rev. S. K. Lidstone,
our pastor, received 15 on probation upon a
recent Sabbath, making 20 for the year. One
also uniting with the church by letter, and more
are expected to become probationers.
These fruits of a revival interest will, we
trust, greatly strengthen our society.

Montpelier District.

The annual session of the State Edu-
cation Union, which was held in Trinity M.
Church, Montpelier, was a benefit to that
society, is evidenced by the fact that, at the
first subsequent session held by the Y. P. S.
C. E. connected with that society, there were
eleven new applications for membership.
Other churches of our denomination will feel
the impetus, and see greater and less results.

Worcester. — At the monthly meeting of
the Methodist Preachers' Association last
week, held in Trinity Church, Rev. Alonso
Sanderson presided. Rev. W. R. Ray read
an interesting paper on "Class-meetings,"
and Rev. E. S. Best read a paper on "Secta-
rianism and the Public Schools." The latter
is published in the *Gazette* of Worcester.

Webster. — The Webster church has been
undergoing very considerable repairs and
improvements. Among the latter are the in-
troduction of steam, refresing, repolishing
all the wood-work, new pulpit, renewed pal-
pit furniture, new carpets, etc. The frescoing
is exceedingly chaste and beautiful. There is
nothing to offend the most fastidious; no
glaring colors, no ungraceful figures. All is
in most excellent taste designed and exec-
uted by the artists, Butler and Stenberg of
Boston. The wood-work, carpentry, and or-
gan decoration are in excellent harmony with
the frescoing. The whole audience-room is
relishful, the eye, harmonious, beautiful. The
vestry is quite as much improved. Three
furnaces are gone, giving more room and
greatly adding to the appearance. The walls
and wood-work are handsomely colored, the
seats polished, the large parlors newly pa-
pered and painted, and the whole vestry
made comfortable and attractive. After be-
ing closed for some time — the congregation
meeting, by invitation, with the Congregationalists
across the street — the church was re-
opened, Sunday, Dec. 9. Large congregations
were present at both services. Though
so kindly and hospitably treated by their
friends in the Congregational Church, all
were glad to be in their own home again. The
pastor, Rev. T. B. Smith, preached in the
morning. The principal service was in the
evening. The Congregationalists, with their
new pastor, were present, and an excellent
and practical sermon was preached by the
last pastor, Rev. W. E. Knox. His accom-
plished lady rendered effective service as a
soloist and member of the choir. The music
throughout was very appropriate and good.
The Sabbath-school was largely attended, and
had a very interesting session, under the man-
agement of its able superintendent, Bro. C.
Corbin. The people were in excellent
spirits, and glad to resume their church lab-
ors. There is a good prospect of a prosper-
ous winter.

North Boston District.

Rev. A. B. Leonard, D. D., one of the mis-
sionary secretaries, spent the Sabbath, Dec. 2,
with the church in Middleboro, and preached
the second Sunday in the month for the celebra-
tion of the Charles Wesley anniversary, both
morning and evening services being devoted to
this purpose.

MANLIUS.

N. E. SOUTHERN CONFERENCE.

New Bedford District.

Rev. A. B. Leonard, D. D., one of the mis-
sionary secretaries, spent the Sabbath, Dec. 2,
with the church in Middleboro, and preached
the second Sunday in the month for the celebra-
tion of the Charles Wesley anniversary, both
morning and evening services being devoted to
this purpose.

REILAW.

Twenty-three have joined the church
in fall, and more are to follow.

Camp-meeting Association. — At a recent
meeting the affairs of the Association were
found to be in a most satisfactory state. Al-
though nearly \$1,000 had been expended in
repairs and improvements, the assets have
met the expenses, besides leaving a balance of
about \$400 in the treasury. Thus encouraged,
the brethren are planning for additional im-
provements next season, which include better
drainage for the grounds, and clearing out
unnecessary growths of underbrush and trees
at the entrance, which now impair the charm-
ing view from that point of which Benjamin
Clark, of London, said last summer that the
site alone was worth almost the cost of a
trip across the ocean.

MANLIUS.

The pastor at Waterbury has recently re-
ceived the gift of an elegant fur-trimmed over-
coat, a full set of all-wool under-flannels, his
wife the materials and trimmings for a nice
dress, and the baby some acceptable articles of
wearing apparel. This most generous and
thoughtful gift was at first meant for a Christ-
mas present, but, seeing the present need, they
were bestow at once. That the pastor is
thankful, and that these things bind the par-
sonage more closely to the people, is but a
faint expression of the truth.

At least two churches on the district, those
at *Watertown* and *Montpelier*, utilized the
second Sunday in the month for the celebra-
tion of the Charles Wesley anniversary, both
morning and evening services being devoted to
this purpose.

Dec. 5 was quarterly meeting at *Morristown*,
and all pronounced it a very interesting occa-
sion. Five were received in full membership,
and two were baptized.

Miss Lois A. Bixby, the teacher of physical
culture at the Seminary, has been released
from her duties for the remainder of the year,
and will take the opportunity to pursue her
art studies at Syracuse University. Her place
at the Seminary during the interim will be
filled by a pupil whom she has drilled for this
special purpose.

REILAW.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE.

Dover District.

This time it is the *Portsmouth* pastor who is
the victim. A thorough "pounding" was ad-
ministered some time ago. He was in-
veigled into a neighbor's house. During his
absence the parsonage was filled with a happy
company, and the minister sent for to see a
couple who had called. He hurriedly entered
the house, only to be confronted with a houseful
of people, each of whom came laden with a
bundle. An enjoyable evening was spent,
and the person's heart had more in it to eat
after the company had gone than before they
came. This is a good field for work, and we
are glad to say that the present pastorate
has not been without some success. During
the year and a half there has been an increase
of 34 by letter, on probation, and into full
connection. Congregations are large. At the
Sunday evening prayer-meeting the vestry is
usually filled. The young people's prayer-
meeting packs the small vestry to uncomfortable
fullness.

A missionary convention was held in *Taun-
ton* on Tuesday, Dec. 4, under the direction of
the presiding elder, Rev. C. W. Gallagher,
D. D. In the afternoon a "Grace Church"
Mrs. Rev. James Mudge spoke on "Grace
Life in India," and Rev. A. B. Leonard, D. D.,
on "The Missionary Society and its Fields."

The evening at the First Church Mrs.
Mudge's address related to "School Work in
India," while the subject of "Leonard was
'The World for Christ.'" The addresses were
very interesting and instructive on both occa-
sions by each of the speakers. The address
of "The World for Christ" by Dr. Leonard
was one of great power and eloquence. It is
a large field for work, and we are glad to say
that the present pastorate has not been without
some success.

Bowery Beach is still earnest in effort and
hopeful for results. A change in the internal
structure of the church is contemplated. The
need of a vestry is much felt, and the brethren
think a part of the church can be appropriated
for that purpose, which, if done, will add
much to the convenience and economy of
social worship.

The District Missionary Convention at
Rochester, Jan. 16 and 17, should claim the
attention of all Dover District. The programme
will be worth hearing. Don't forget the time
and place.

The delay of the insurance companies to set-
tle with the church at *Great Falls*, hinders
them in their work of repairing. If they con-
tinue to wait much longer, the trustees will
compel payment by law. In the meantime
Bro. C. is busily engaged in looking after
his people and keeping everything together.
At the last communion several were baptized
and received into the church. A very interest-
ing evening prayer-meeting the vestry is
usually filled. The young people's prayer-
meeting packs the small vestry to uncomfortable
fullness.

The *Manchester* pastors have made a move
toward furnishing the people of that city with
a first-class course of lectures and entertain-
ments, at about third-class prices. The first
of the series was given Wednesday evening,
Dec. 12. Its success was beyond all reason-
able expectation. The crush of humanity to
gain admission to the hall was such that the
crowd overflowed onto the sidewalk and out
into the street. The pastors took places with
the ushers, and aided in seating the crowd. A
double quartette of Swedish ladies gave the
entertainment. This project is certainly
commendable.

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The Family.

AFTER DARKNESS, LIGHT!

BY THE LATE MRS. A. N. STOW.

(Nov. 12, Mrs. Stow sent the following poem for publication in the HERALD. Nov. 23, after a brief illness, she followed the angel of death to that "fair land" of eternal day, of which the Lamb Himself is the "light.")

Not one long night, beloved,
With never, here and there, a gleam of light,
With not a single star to shine above us,
Hie we should falter and give o'er the fight.

In darkness lies the promise
Of some glad day that on the soul shall rise
Just where the blackness seems to be the fiercest,
A sweet surprise to weary, tear-dimmed eyes.

Upon creation's morning
The gracious mandate gave: "Let there be light;"
And though at eve the lengthning shadows gathered,
Morning arose and chased away the night.

Scars is a day unclouded;
The fairest promise disappoints its close;
Yet patient waiting goes not unrewarded,
Trusting that light will come brings sweet repose.

Why murmur then, beloved?
Into the sunlight we shall come at last.
What if our lives are cramped, and dark, and joyless;
A day will come when this shall all be past.

With no uncertain accents
The King of heaven will claim as his own —
Joint-heirs with him who purchased our salvation —
And crown us with great joy before his throne.

O blessed, blessed prospect!
To walk with him in pure garments white;
With never-tiring zeal to love and labor
In that fair land that knows not pain nor blight.

Cromwell, O!

TOM.

Yes, Tom's the best fellow that ever you knew.
Just listen to this: —

When the old mill togs fire, and the flooring fell through,
And I with it, helpless there, full in my view,

What do you think my eyes saw through the fire
That crept along, crept along, nigher and nigher,
But Robin, my baby-boy, laughing to see
The shining? He must have come there after me,
Toddled alone from the cottage without.

Any one's passing him? Then what a shout —
Oh, it's a shout! "For heaven's sake, men,
Save little Robin!" Again and again

They tried, but the fire held them back like a wall.
I could hear them go at it, and at it, and call,

"Never mind, baby, sit still like a man!"

"They're coming to get you, as fast as we can."

Their voices were like a rushing wind. He sat

Still on a beam, his little straw hat
Carefully placed by his side; and his eyes

Stared at the flame with a baby's surprise,
Calm and unconscious, as nearer it crept.

The fire of course, had held him fast, and kept

The sound of his mother's voice shaking his name
From reaching the child. But I heard it, and said,

"Again and again! O God, what a cry!"

The axes were faster; I saw the sparks fly
Where the men worked like tigers, not minded the

heat. That scorched them — when suddenly, there at their feet,

The great beams leaned in — they saw him — then, — crash —

Down came the wall! The men made a dash —

Jumped to get out of the way — and I thought,
"All's up with poor little Robin!" and brought

Slowly the arm that was least hurt to hide.

The sight of the child there — when swift, at my side,

Something rushed by, and went right through the flame —

Straight as a dart — caught the child — and then came

Back with him, choking and crying, but — saved!

Saved safe and sound! —

Oh, how the man raved,

Shouted, and cried, and hurried! Then they all

Rushed at the work again, lest the back wall

When I was lying, away from the fire,
Should fall and bury me.

Oh! you'd admire

To see Robin now; he's as bright as a dime,

Deep in some mischief, too, most of the time.

Tom, it was, saved him. Now, isn't it true

Tom's the best fellow that ever you knew?

There's Robin now! See, he's strong as a log!

And there comes Tom, too —

Yes, Tom was our dog.

— Constance Fenimore Woolson.

THOUGHTS FOR THE THOUGHTFUL

Be certain of this, that no misery can be equal to that which a man feels who is conscious that he has proved unequal to his part, who has deserted the post his captain set him, and who, when men said, "Such and such a one is there on guard, there is no need to take further heed," has left his watch, or quailed before the foeman, to the loss, perhaps the total ruin, of the cause he had made his choice.

— J. H. Shorthouse.

It is not work that kills men, it is worry. Work is healthy; you can hardly put more on a man than he can bear. Worry is the rust on the blade. It is not the revolution that destroys the machinery, but the friction. — H. Beecher.

What does it matter after all? Humble as it may be, my path is my own. Lowly as may be my lot, it is what God has given me. Faint as may be its accents, my voice has its own accent. For good cheer, my soul! Love, adore, labor! The glory of God is over all; in a blade of grass as well as in the stars. Be of good cheer; heaven opens its portals to all who ever feel that they have wings. Be of good cheer; spread out your wings, and lift yourself upwards! — Madame de Gasparin.

* *

It is a painful thing, this pruning work, this cutting off of the over-luxuriant shoots, and under-calling the tendering junes into the healthier and more living. — In Michigan it is described thus: "The tender hand of Michigan beareth fruit. He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." The keen edge of God's pruning-cuts sheer through. No weak tenderness stops Him whose love seeks goodness, not comfort, for His servants. — F. W. Robertson.

* *

O, love is weak
Which counts the answers and the gains,
Weighs all the losses and the pains,
And eager each fond word drains
A joy to seek.

When love is strong,
It sets no taints to strong,
Or know if it return exceed
It's heat; in its sweet holds no greed,
No strife holds.

So much we miss

It love is weak, so much we gain
It love is strong; God thinks no pain
Too sharp or lasting to ordain

To teach us this.

— H. H.

If we are really, and always, and equally ready to do whatsoever the King appoints, all the trials and vexations arising from any change in His appointments, great or small, simply do not exist. If He appoints me to work there, shall I lament that I am not to work there? He appoints me to work indoors to-day, am I to be annoyed because I am to work out-of-doors? If I meant to write His messages this morning, shall I grumble because He sends interrupting visitors, rich or poor, to whom I am to speak them, or "show kindness" for His sake, or at least obey His command, "Be courteous?" If all my "members" are ready at His disposal, why should I put out if to-day's appointment is some simple work for my hands or errands for my feet, instead of some seeming more important doing of head or tongue? — Francis Ridley Havergal.

* *

There is a certain amount of suffering which must follow the rending of the great

cords

of life, suffering which is natural and inevitable; it cannot be argued down; it cannot be stilled; it can no more be soothed by any effort of faith and reason than of a fractured limb, or the agony of fire on the living flesh. All that we can do is to brace our souls to the calling on God, as the martyrs did in the fire, and resigning ourselves to let it burn on. We must be willing to suffer, since God so wills. There are just so many waves to go over us, just so many arrows of stinging thought to be shot into our soul, just so many faintings and sinkings and revoltings only to suffer again, belonging to and inherent in our portion of sorrows; and there is a work of healing that God has placed in the hands of Time alone. Time heals all things at last; yet it depends much on us in our sufferings, whether Time shall be swift, headlong, but mild and tempered and calm; or whether, looking to the great Physician of sorrows, and co-working with Him, we come forth stronger and fairer even for our wounds. — Harriet Beecher Stowe.

* *

Observe, how in all the works of creation around us, and in the nature of man, there is an agreement between the inner need and cry, and the outer expression. There is a law in life an effort at advancement, and a preparation to welcome and answer it. The seed hidden beneath the clod has its brooding secret which cries for help to disclose itself, and to reach the perfection of its nature; and the voices of spring are soliciting it above, the showers, the soft breezes, the gentle influences of the sky. Everywhere there is seed and climate, and every climate matures its own seed. Observe the eye, with its delicate and complicated organism, and the light of day so sweet, so pleasant, like some angelic minister leading it out through all the fields of earth and heaven. There are, in our daily life, hunger and bread, thirst and water, the breathing frame and the vital air, and the manifold necessities and supplies, which are like prayers and answers in every place; and beneath the earth, in the depths, there are the innumerable instincts of the smaller creatures, so strange oftentimes, so mysterious, yet not one of them made to be disappointed, as if their necessities were a look and cry to an unfailing hand. "These wait all on Thee." — Rev. John Ker, D. D.

* *

AN AUTUMN DAY IN CAMBRIDGE.
BY MISS ANNA BREED.

IT was a rare day in October, the air soft and balmy, the sky deep blue, the trees brilliant with their scarlet, crimson, golden and brown leaves. We rode out from Boston into Cambridge. Crossing Charles River bridge, we gazed over the river to the fine Boston residences beyond, and recalled a description we once read by that genial publisher, James T. Fields, who delighted to sit at his library windows, in one of these homes, reading his favorite authors, occasionally pausing to look out on the pleasant view before him. We wondered if this was not the bridge Longfellow speaks of in that familiar poem of his so often read and sung, commencing, —

"I stood on the bridge at midnight,
As the clocks were striking the hour,
And the moon rose o'er the city
Behind the dark church tower.

"And like those waters rushing
Among the wooden piers,
A flood of thought came o'er me
That filled my eyes with tears."

And we pictured the poet as he stood watching the "waters rushing among the wooden piers," and hearing in the distance the solemn sound of the clocks on the city churches "striking the hour." In those still moments he tells us how his heavy burden of sorrow seemed to fall from him, and how he departed to his home resolved to deeply sympathize with the sorrows of others and cease to murmur because of his own.

A short ride brought us to the home of the poet Lowell, a fine, old-fashioned residence, known as "Elmwood," situated in the midst of ample grounds, shaded by grand old trees. Just beyond we beheld the stately colonial homestead occupied by Washington during his stay in Cambridge in old revolutionary days. This home was purchased by Longfellow. Here he lived that ideal domestic life with his beautiful wife and bright children; here, too, he spent the long, lonely years after Mrs. Longfellow's death, when his family and friends sought by delicate, loving ministrations to cheer and sustain him.

We passed by the handsome buildings of the Episcopal Divinity School, and rode on to Mount Auburn cemetery. We alighted at the gate and entered the sacred enclosure. All was still and peaceful. The lovely chapel was wreathed with ivy turned to bright scarlet and deep crimson, and the pines were covered with fallen leaves. In a thoughtful mood we wandered on, visiting the last resting-place of eminent men and women as we passed by them. We noticed the grave of that brilliant lawyer, Rufus Choate; of that splendid and pure Senator, Charles Sumner; of noble Margaret Fuller; and lingered long by the graves of Longfellow and Agassiz. Over Longfellow's grave is placed a heavy rose-granite tombstone, resembling a sarcophagus. It seemed to us a singularly inappropriate emblem of the poet's character. We had expected to see the mound above his grave covered with trailing vines, and a pure white monument, pointing upward, ornamented with delicately carved flowers, marking the resting-place of our favorite American poet, who sang of noble men, of faithful, charming women, of nature and art, of home life and love. Only a rough granite rock marks the grave of that large-hearted Swiss naturalist, Agassiz. Mrs. Agassiz tells us in her biography of her husband that it seemed to her the most appropriate way of marking the last resting-place of one who clung to nature with all the intense love of a child for his mother.

We passed by the handsome buildings of the Boston Advertiser says: "A new feature of life in Boston, and a pleasing feature too, is the business girl. She is not afraid of a man and doesn't bother her head about catching one. She dresses faultlessly, looks her prettiest, has a soft voice, but does not flirt during business hours. She comes in on the steam or horse cars and shows her good sense by taking a crowd as a matter of course, and does not distract others with disagreeable, petulant ways when she has to stand. She is like a man in a black silk dress of somewhat old-fashioned cut, whom one would never for a moment connect with a great traveler and the founder of an important scientific and antiquarian scheme like the Egyptian Exploration Fund. Her face was pleasant to look on, bright up by intelligence and dominated by a square broad forehead, from which the gray hair was swept back in a full wave.

— Miss Amelia Edwards, LL. D., in her lecture on "Women in Ancient Egypt," in Dundee, Scotland, is described by a correspondent as of medium height and of unassuming demeanor — a modest, lady-like woman in a black silk dress of somewhat old-fashioned cut, whom one would never for a moment connect with a great traveler and the founder of an important scientific and antiquarian scheme like the Egyptian Exploration Fund. Her face was pleasant to look on, bright up by intelligence and dominated by a square broad forehead, from which the gray hair was swept back in a full wave.

— Miss Jane Morgan, the sister of Miss Middle Morgan, the well-known live-stock reporter, is an artist, and with her own hand has decorated the interior of the unique house built for Miss Middle on Staten Island. One room calls for particular attention. It is rough plastered, and while this plaster was wet Miss Jane stuck the ceiling with the claws of lobsters, crabs, and the shells of clams. The dado is decorated with the hoofs of "trotters" of pigs carefully woven into wreaths, the centres of which are satin rosettes.

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The Sunday School.

FOURTH QUARTERLY REVIEW.

Sunday, December 30.

BY REV. W. O. HOLWAY, U. S. N.

I. Preliminary.

The lessons for the past quarter were taken from the books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth—eight from the first-named, three from the second, and one from the third. The period covered by the lessons as nearly as can be determined, embraces about 340 years—from B. C. 1400 to B. C. 1111.

II. Lesson Analysis.

1. The topic of LESSON I (Joshua 1: 1-9) was the "Commission of Joshua." The call of Joshua, the son of Nun, to succeed Moses; the divine commission to him to arise and go up and possess the land, whose boundaries were defined—from Lebanon on the north to the "wilderness" on the south, and from the Euphrates on the east to the Mediterranean on the west; the divine assurance, that no man should successfully withstand him; and that God would be with him as He had been with Moses; and the divine injunction, to be "strong, and of good courage," to keep indelibly the law of Moses, not to let it depart out of his mouth, but to meditate therein day and night—were the chief points of the lesson.

2. In LESSON II (Joshua 3: 5-17) our subject was, "Crossing the Jordan." The principal points were: The favorable reports of the spies who had been sent to find out the status of the Canaanites; the command to the Israelites to "sanctify" themselves in preparation for a coming miracle; the march on the next day to the swollen Jordan, the priests in the van bearing the ark; the miraculuous arrest and heaping up of the waters about thirty miles above, converting the channel even to the Dead Sea into a ford; the descent of the priests into the middle of the channel and their pause there till all the people had passed over; the ascent of the priests to the opposite bank; and the immediate return of the waters.

3. The topic of LESSON III (Josh. 4: 10-21) was, "The Stones of Memorial." The priests occupied their position in the middle of Jordan, until all the people had passed over; then the ark passed over, borne by the priests, at the command of Joshua, whom the Lord magnified that day, so that all Israel "feared him as they feared Moses, all the days of his life." As soon as the priests had reached the dry land of the bank, the restrained waters returned to their channel. It was on the tenth day of the tenth month that the passage was made, and that they encamped in Gilgal. And it was in Gilgal that Joshua "did pitch" the twelve memorial stones taken from the bed of the river, which God designed to stand as a visible and enduring monument of the miracle.

4. In LESSON IV (Joshua 6: 1-16) the subject was, "The Fall of Jericho." The terror of the Jerichoites; the specific directions concerning the capture of the city; the daily silent compassing of the walls for six days; and seven times on the seventh day, the warriors leading seven priests carrying trumpets of ram's horns following, with the ark and the people in the rear; the blast of trumpets and mighty shout at the final circuit; the falling of the walls; the extermination of the people except Rahab and her family; the burning of the city; and Joshua's solemn imprecation upon whosoever should rebuild Jericho—constitute an outline of the lesson.

5. "Defeat at Ai" was the topic of LESSON V (Josh. 7: 1-12). The following is an outline: The unexpected and inglorious repulse of the 3,000 sent to capture Ai, with the loss of thirty-six men; the dismay of the Israelites; the self-humiliation of the elders before the ark; Joshua's exhortations with Jehovah; the reply, that Israel had sinned in taking of "the accursed thing" from the spoils of Jericho, and the command to sanctify the people, and detect and punish the offender; the casting of the lot; the detection of Achan; and his confession and punishment.

6. The topic of LESSON VI (Josh. 14: 15) was "Caleb's Inheritance." The place was Gilgal, the occasion, the division of the land. Accompanied by the elders of Judah, the venerable Caleb appears before Joshua, reminds him of his promise made forty years before when, as one of the spies, he had brought back a good report, that he should have Hebron for his inheritance, declares that though fourscore and five years old his strength is unimpaired, and expresses his firm conviction that by God's help he will be able to expel the Amorites. And Hebron was given to Caleb for his inheritance, "because that he wholly followed the Lord God of Israel."

7. "Helping One Another" was the subject of LESSON VII (Josh. 21: 43-45; 22: 1-9). The conquest of the land was effected, and "the Lord gave the people rest round about." Naught had failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken. The time had come to disband, to exchange the tent for the settled habitation. Joshua therefore summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, who had nobly fulfilled their promise to help their brethren in conquering the land, commended their fidelity, and dismissed them out of service—directing them to return, with their booty, to their families and kinsfolk across the Jordan, to keep the commandments of Moses, and to share their gains by war with those who had remained at home.

8. The subject of LESSON VIII (Josh. 21: 19-28) was, "The Covenant Renewed." The assembling of the tribes at Shechem; the exhortation of Joshua

to choose between the gods of the Amorites and the God of Israel; his own noble decision on the part of himself and house to serve the Lord; the protestations of the people that they, too, would serve the Lord; Joshua's reminder that God was "holy" and "jealous," and would not forgive their transgressions; the reply of the people—"We will serve the Lord;" the solemn renewal of the covenant; the rolling of the great stone under the oak at Shechem, as the stone of witness—constitutes an outline of the lesson.

9. "Israel under Judges" was the topic of LESSON IX (Judges 2: 11-23). The points noted were: The faithfulness of the Israelites to their covenant during the rule of Joshua and of "the elders that outlived Joshua;" the rise of a new generation which "knew not Jehovah," and had not seen His mighty works; their departure from the God of their fathers who had delivered, preserved and blessed them as a nation; their worship of Baalim and Ashteroth; God's anger and their punishment—"sold into the hands of their enemies; their distress; and the raising up of "judges" from time to time who delivered them from the hand of the oppressor.

10. In LESSON X (Judges 7: 1-8) "Gideon's Army" was our subject. We learned about the Midianite oppression which had lasted seven years, during which the whole country was annually overrun and impoverished, and the Israelites driven for refuge to dens, and caves, and mountain fastnesses; about Gideon's call; his destruction of Baal's altar, his new name of Jerubbaal given him because of this deed, his army of 32,000 arrayed against the Midianites, its first defeat, and the Israelites driven for refuge to dens, and caves, and mountain fastnesses; about Gideon's call; his destruction of Baal's altar, his new name of Jerubbaal given him because of this deed, his army of 32,000 arrayed against the Midianites, its first defeat, and the Israelites driven for refuge to dens, and caves, and mountain fastnesses; about Gideon's call; his destruction of Baal's altar, his new name of Jerubbaal given him because of this deed, his army of 32,000 arrayed against the Midianites, its first defeat, and the Israelites driven for refuge to dens, and caves, and mountain fastnesses; 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Review of the Week.

Tuesday, December 11.

— Mr. Gladstone to go to Naples.
— One hundred Zanzibar rebels killed by the Germans.
— Loss of the steamer "Yanquina City" off the coast of Oregon.
— Carl Schurz welcomed home by the New York Lotus Club.
— A bank in Madrid robbed of \$240,000 of government funds.
— Debate in the British House of Commons on the Irish estimates.
— Real Admiral Le Roy died at the Hotel Victoria, New York City.
— Several persons injured in a collision on the Huntington & Broad Top railroad in Pennsylvania.
— In the Senate Allison's Tariff bill still under discussion; the secretary of the interior replies to the resolution of Mr. Dawes that he knows nothing concerning alleged outrages in Alaska. In the House, bills introduced: To repeal the interstate commerce law; to revise the grade of lieutenant-general of the army; granting pensions to soldiers; resolution concerning citizen bribery. Passage of the District of Columbia and Pension appropriation bills.

Wednesday, December 12.

— Corroboration of the charges of outrages in Alaska.
— Germany accepts the fact of a war with the East Indies.

— The real author of the forged Parnell letters said to be in custody.
— Annual convention of the American Federation of Labor at St. Louis.

— Success of the Russian loan in France tends toward a political entente.
— Financiers have no hope that a crisis in the affairs of the Panama Canal Company will be averted.

— A despatch from London stated that Doulton's pottery at Lambeth was burned down.

— Explosion in an oatmeal mill at Chicago causes several deaths and much property loss; causes various ascribed.

— Governor Seay upholds the course of Sheriff Smith of Birmingham, Ala. The sheriff released on \$25,000 bail. The city quiet.

— In the Senate, long and spirited debate on the Tariff bill. In the House, the session devoted to a consideration of the Direct Tax bill.

— The Maryland steamer "McLane" had a two hours' fight with a fleet of oyster pirates in Chester River, Md., and won two of the dredgers. Nine of the pirates were drowned or crushed to death.

— The Pope refuses to bless medals for the Irish on account of their disloyalty; he declared that the people of Ireland are disloyal, and that they prefer "the gospel of Dillon and O'Brien to that of Jesus Christ."

— A banquet given in London to celebrate the completion of the Encyclopedia Britannica. The Duke of Cambridge and many other distinguished persons present. Adam Black declares that the work owed its increased circulation to American enterprise.

— Thomas N. Hart (Republican) elected mayor of Boston, defeating Hugh O'Brien (Democrat) by about 2,000 majority; owing to the school-book question, about 18,000 women vote for school committee; the aldermen-elect stand eight Republicans and four Democrats; and the common council 35 Republicans and 38 Democrats; the Republican ticket for school committee elected; majority for license, 17,651.

Thursday, December 13.

— The war steamers "Galena" and "Yantic," leave Brooklyn for Hayti.

— Sheriff Smith of Birmingham, Ala., again in jail; two more warrants for murder issued.

— Engineer-in-Chief George M. Melville warmly approves of the scheme of refuge huts in the Arctic region.

— Death of Colover, the White River chief, near the Ouray Indian agency.

— Charles F. Mayor accepts the presidency of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad.

— Sharp fighting in progress at Suskin; the Government's Soudanese policy denounced by Mr. Morley in Parliament.

— In the Senate, long debate on the Tariff bill. In the House, passage of the Direct Tax refunding bill after the submission of various documents, nearly all of which were rejected.

Friday, December 14.

— Balloons sent to Suskin for the use of the troops.

— Investigation of the Birmingham riot by the coroner's jury.

— Congress asked to legislate for a better observance of the Sabbath.

— The Southern Interstate Immigration Bureau organized at Montgomery, Ala.

— Mexican business men seek their government for better freight rates and a uniform tax system.

— This week's' game of Nova Scotia drove at least five vessels ashore, two of which are totally wrecked.

— Mr. Melville Dewey, librarian at Columbia College, chosen State librarian of New York at a salary of \$15,000.

— Crew of the schooner "T. A. Lambert," Capt. Hall and friends, supposed to be lost, arrive safe at Gibralter.

— In the Senate, Mr. Ridderberger creates a scene by interrupting the Tariff debate with points of order. In the House, the Oklahoma bill under discussion. The Senate committee on Education and Labor gave a hearing to advocates and opponents of Mr. Blair's Sunday Rest bill; the Ford Immigration committee hear actors who desire protection from foreign rivals.

Saturday, December 15.

— M. Clemenceau wounded in a duel with M. Maurel.

— M. de Lesseps resigns the presidency of the Panama Canal Company.

— In Congress, the House only in session; discussion of the Nicaragua Canal bill.

— Sudden death of David A. Stewart, president of the Carnegie interests at Pittsburgh, Pa.

— The Canadian press assails Mr. Butterworth for introducing his annexation resolution.

— Resolution for the suppression of the East African slave trade passes the German Reichstag.

— Editor O'Brien will be summoned before the special commission for contempt of court. The commission adjourns to January 15.

— The French Chamber of Deputies grants urgency for a bill authorizing the postponement for three months of the Panama Canal Company's liabilities.

— Two crocodiles furnished by Osman Digna of the truth of his story that Egypt and a white boy (supposed to be Stanley) were held captive by the Mahdi, considered almost convincing; the Emir Bey Relief Expedition, however, discredit the story.

Monday, December 17.

— The St. Louis horse railway lines to be sold to a trust or syndicate for \$3,000,000.

— Twenty thousand dollars worth of opium smuggled from Canada into Port Huron, Mich., was seized Saturday.

— A not cabin, made in Nebraska for General Harrison, has arrived at Indianapolis. It will probably appear in the inaugural procession at Washington.

— Two highways stopped a passenger train on the Illinois Central Friday night, robbed the express car of \$3,000, and shot a passenger dead who interfered with the work.

THE CONFERENCES.

(Continued from Page 5.)

North Wadoboro. — Bro. Rogers is in labor abundant. The work of the charge is well cared for at all points. The three weeks' series of meetings at the West and Winslow's Mills resulted in much good.

Vassalboro. — A course of lectures is being arranged for by the pastor, and the general work of the charge is carefully looked after.

Round Pond. — The interest in all services on this charge is excellent. There are quite a

number of willing workers here, and the work is being pushed. A revival is looked for. The ladies are collecting funds for a parsonage, and they hope before long to have a good home for their pastor. Bro. Kelley is a careful pastor.

Cushing. — A very large congregation greeted us at the last quarterly service. Eight were baptized, and a much larger number than usual partook of the Lord's Supper. Bro. P. A. Smith is succeeding finely in his work.

Windsor. — Bro. Skinner is caring well for the work. In visiting from house to house, in the regular and special services the Lord is assisting. Twenty-six the past quarter have said, "Pray for me." The interest is increasing.

Woolwich. — Large congregations greet the pastor, Bro. Thompson, each Sabbath. The social meetings are good, and new recruits are being hoped for.

Rockland. — Since Conference seventy-seven have said, "Pray for me." Thirty-nine

have been received on probation and ten into full membership. The Young People's Christian League and Praying Band that have been organized by Bro. Cummings, are a great help in all the services at the church and at the outposts of the charge. With good success they have labored upon other charges. A new furnace has been put into the church; this, with the two old ones, guarantees a warm church.

Montville. — The good work is still going upon this charge under Bro. Bennett. Four have been received into full membership, two were lately baptized, and about fifteen are ready to be received on probation.

Scoarment. — The people upon this charge are taking a lively interest in all the masters of the church. The work, under Bro. Wiggin, is carefully looked after, and he is well sustained.

Sheepot Bridge. — The attendance at the preaching services, class and prayer-meetings, continues good. The parsonage has been thoroughly repaired and painted, and the church furnace put in good working order. This has cost the pastor much care and hard work. The people are well united, and with Bro. Pentecost as a leader they propose to have victory "in His name."

Wiscasset. — The people upon this charge enjoy the services of Bro. Leverton. Sickness has compelled the pastor to give up a part of the work, but he is improving and hopes soon to be able to care for all the work.

Westport. — This charge has been unfortunate in not having a pastor for some weeks. Bro. H. D. Dodge supplied here during the summer; Rev. A. Plummer then spent a few weeks with them, until Bro. N. J. Jones took up the work. Bro. T. N. Hogue has been appointed to the charge, and will enter upon the duties, Sunday, Dec. 16.

A Christmas Bargain in Millinery.

Handsome Silk Velvet Toques, trimmed with rich Imported Fancy Feathers, in latest winter style of millinery.

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Wiscasset. — The people upon this charge enjoy the services of Bro. Leverton. Sickness has compelled the pastor to give up a part of the work, but he is improving and hopes soon to be able to care for all the work.

Westport. — This charge has been unfortunate in not having a pastor for some weeks. Bro. H. D. Dodge supplied here during the summer; Rev. A. Plummer then spent a few weeks with them, until Bro. N. J. Jones took up the work. Bro. T. N. Hogue has been appointed to the charge, and will enter upon the duties, Sunday, Dec. 16.

A Christmas Bargain in Millinery.

Handsome Silk Velvet Toques, trimmed with rich Imported Fancy Feathers, in latest winter style of millinery.

\$3.50.
— ALSO —

Black Crape Bonnets,
— AT —

\$1.50 and \$2.00,
always in stock,

Sensible Christmas Gift.

Special Bargains
— IN —

Blankets

9 cases 11-4 White Wool Blankets
\$2.00 per pair

9 cases 11-4 White All-Wool
Blankets
\$3.90 per pair

9 cases 12-4 White Wool Blankets
\$3.50 per pair

9 cases 11-4 White All-Wool
Blankets, Minneapolis goods
\$4.50 per pair

9 cases 11-4 Gray Wool Blankets
\$2.00 per pair

The above, in connection with our famous All-Wool Merino Blankets, will give all a chance to select a sensible Christmas gift.

All-Wool Merino Blankets:

10-4, 11-4, 12-4,

\$5.00 \$6.00 \$7.00 per pair,

JORDAN, MARSH AND COMPANY.

ARTISTIC GIFTS.
Art Photographs
MOUNTED AND UNMOUNTED.

FOR CHRISTMAS.

Soule Photograph Co.,
338 WASHINGTON ST., BOSTON.

J. F. AMSDEN & SON,
Bankers & Brokers,
50 CONGRESS STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

Choice Investment Bonds
for sale. Stocks bought and
sold, and carried as security
for loans when desired.

Members of the Boston
Stock Exchange.

THE CONFERENCES.

(Continued from Page 5.)

North Wadoboro. — Bro. Rogers is in labor abundant. The work of the charge is well cared for at all points. The three weeks' series of meetings at the West and Winslow's Mills resulted in much good.

Vassalboro. — A course of lectures is being arranged for by the pastor, and the general work of the charge is carefully looked after.

Round Pond. — The interest in all services on this charge is excellent. There are quite a

number of willing workers here, and the work is being pushed. A revival is looked for.

Rockland. — Since Conference seventy-seven have said, "Pray for me." Thirty-nine

have been received on probation and ten into full membership. The Young People's Christian League and Praying Band that have been organized by Bro. Cummings, are a great help in all the services at the church and at the outposts of the charge. With good success they have labored upon other charges. A new furnace has been put into the church; this, with the two old ones, guarantees a warm church.

Montville. — The good work is still going upon this charge under Bro. Bennett. Four have been received into full membership, two were lately baptized, and about fifteen are ready to be received on probation.

Scoarment. — The people upon this charge are taking a lively interest in all the masters of the church. The work, under Bro. Wiggin, is carefully looked after, and he is well sustained.

Sheepot Bridge. — The attendance at the preaching services, class and prayer-meetings, continues good. The parsonage has been thoroughly repaired and painted, and the church furnace put in good working order. This has cost the pastor much care and hard work. The people are well united, and with Bro. Pentecost as a leader they propose to have victory "in His name."

Woolwich. — Large congregations greet the pastor, Bro. Thompson, each Sabbath. The social meetings are good, and new recruits are being hoped for.

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